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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Appl No.:

Nissl et al. 10/573,948 TBD Confirmation No.: 7923 Group Art Unit: TBD Examiner: TBD

Filed:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 are cited herein because they were cited in the Search Report of corresponding European Application No. EP 04 78 9198.

A copy of the Search Report is enclosed along with any cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature documents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). The Examiner may also wish to consider the notations on the Search Report itself regarding the relevance of each item.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these references and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By identifying the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead identifying the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

As noted above, each item of information listed on form PTO-1449 was cited in a Search Report from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. This Search Report was not received by any individual designated by 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

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ALSTON & BRD LLF Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000 Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111 Respectfully submitted,

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Receipt date: 06/07/2007 Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/573,948 (Revised 07/2005) TBD Filing Date First Named Inventor Nicel et al INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Group Art Unit TBD STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name TBD Sheet Attorney Docket Number 047956/307844 οf II. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number Publication Date Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Examiner Cite Name of Patentee or Relevant Passages of Relevant Initials* No. Number - Kind Code (if known) MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document Figures Appear /T.S./ US-6.607,539 B1 08-19-2003 Havashi et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Foreign Patent Document Pages, Columns, Lines, English Examiner Cite Publication Date Name of Patentee or Where Relevant Language Passages or Relevant Initials Nο Country Code - Number Kind Code MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Translation Figures Appear (if known) Document Attached DE-10335948 B3 02-03-2005 Qualimed Innovative /T.S./ Medizinprodukte GmbH 3 EP-1308138 A2 05-07-2003 Olympus Optical Co., Ltd., et al. 4 WO-02/083037 A1 10-24-2002 Alveolus, Inc. 5 WO-03/022181 A1 03-20-2003 Scimed Life Systems, Inc. OTHER DOCUMENTS English Language Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of Translation the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volumeissue Attached Cite Examiner number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. Initials* No. 6 Copy of the Supplementary European Search Report for EP 04 78 9198, /T.S./ completed April 25, 2007, mailed on May 4, 2007.

Examiner Signature	/Tiffany Shipmon/	Date Considered	10/28/2009

^{*}Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.